



HR1262

LRB099 21931 GRL 48922 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to thank Sam Ma for his work for Chicago's Chinatown community and for the State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Sam Ma is the owner of the B.B.Q. King House in Chicago; he is also a former President of the Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, President of the Chicago Freemason Association and Chinatown Square Mall Association, a former Treasurer of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, and a founder and Honorary Chair of the American and Asian Association; and

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WHEREAS, Sam made his mark in Chinatown's business community in 1993 through his service with the Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce; as Vice President and President of the Chamber, he organized the Annual Moon Festival; in 1999, he joined Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley's Budget Committee, where one of his pet projects was to provide funds that could help ensure healthy economic growth in Chicago neighborhoods; and

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WHEREAS, In addition to Chinatown and the City of Chicago, Sam Ma was nationally recognized by the American Red Cross; he led a fundraising effort that raised \$35,000 for 9/11 victims and their families with the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent

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1 Association; he led the America Asia Amity Association -
2 Chicago Chapter, in raising over \$40,000 to aid the families of
3 the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia; in 2007, he coordinated with
4 U.S. Representative, Danny K. Davis and the Holiday Heroes
5 Foundation to raise funds for holiday gifts for Cystic Fibrosis
6 and cancer patients at Children's Memorial Hospital; he also
7 assisted the Sze Chuan Earthquake Relief Fundraising Committee
8 as well as other organizations in raising \$380,000 to help
9 rebuild the Sze Chuan Province after the May 12, 2008
10 earthquake; and

11 WHEREAS, Always strongly committed to his neighborhood and
12 neighbors, Sam Ma continued his working relationship with Rep.
13 Davis and other local leaders, focusing on immigration issues,
14 and voter education and registration; in the spring of 2002, he
15 coordinated events for Asian American Heritage Month; since the
16 summer of 2006, he has organized the Temple Street Market
17 Festival, as well as the Chinatown Festival since 2011, to
18 promote Asian and Chinese culture in Chicago; and

19 WHEREAS, Sam Ma has been the recipient of numerous awards
20 and honors for his work in the community, including the
21 Distinguished Chinese Community Service Award from the XinLin
22 Association in 2004; in 2005, he received a Certificate of
23 Outstanding Service from the Filipino American Center for
24 Seniors and the Hall of Fame Award in Business from the Asian

1 American Hall of Fame, U.S.A., and the Outstanding Community
2 Service Award by United States Representative Danny Davis in
3 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, In recognition of his longstanding commitment and
5 volunteerism, he has been a member on the Asian Advisory
6 Council for Secretary of State, Jesse White since 2003, and
7 served as Chair in 2013 and 2014; in July of 2009, he was
8 appointed by the Central Government of the People's Republic of
9 China as the State Council of Overseas Commissioner in Chicago;
10 in 2012, he was an elected delegate from the 25th Ward for the
11 Democratic National Convention representing Chicago; he was
12 also a member of President Obama's Presidential Partners with
13 the Democratic National Committee in 2014; and

14 WHEREAS, Sam Ma serves as a model of hard work, integrity,
15 and dedication for the people of the State of Illinois;
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
19 thank Sam Ma for his work in Chicago's Chinatown community and
20 the State of Illinois and wish him continued success and
21 happiness in the future; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to Sam Ma as a symbol of our esteem and respect.